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of ambassadorial industrial park—to relieve a critical shortage of office space for the staffs of foreign missions here.

The diplomatic office problem is compounded here by city zoning restrictions that severely limit the areas available for chanceries, or staff working quarters, as distinct from ambassadorial residences, which can be built anywhere.

Despite nearly three years of planning and consultation with diplomats and members of Congress on its proposal for a 42-acre downtown enclave, the State Department today found itself temporarily one-upped by the House Committee on the District of Columbia, which has distinctly different ideas.

The committee headed by Representative John L. McMillan, Democrat of South Carolina, reported favorably to the House today a plan that differed radically in concept, scope and size from the State Department plan. The State Department bill is not expected to reach the Capitol until tomorrow.

The committee bill runs against the wishes of President Johnson, who called, on Feb. 27, for passage of the State Department plan to relieve "an unnecessary irritant in our international relationships."

A State Department spokesman said that diplomats here would not accept the committee version, if passed.

The two sites offered by the committee were far removed from the downtown complex of Government and international agencies.

The Administration proposal would authorize the General Services Administration, the Federal Government's housekeeping and purchasing agency, to buy most of the property in an area of aging residences north of Washington Circle, at Pennsylvania and New Hampshire Avenues N.W.

With an expenditure of about \$50-million, the G.S.A. would raze the area and, following procedures common in urban renewal development, resell or lease the assembled parcels of acreage to foreign governments for use as chanceries and embassies.

Existing structures that would harmonize with the proposed development, shops and residences and newer apartment buildings would be untouched under both plans. Both would also provide a special site at Federal expense for a new headquarters of the Organization of American States.

The O.A.S. now meets in crowded quarters in the old Pan American Union Building and is one of the chief supporters of the State Department's "international center" plan.

Under the department's proposal, the new O.A.S. building would go up in the block bounded by Pennsylvania Avenue, 25th Street, M Street, and Rock Creek Park, eight short blocks from the State Department.

The District Committee plan calls for the acquisition of a total of about five acres in two parcels, separated by about half a mile, each about two miles from the State Department.

One site would be at the location of the so-called Henderson Castle at 16th Street and Florida Avenue N.W., an abandoned mansion built in 1888 by Senator John B. Henderson, Democrat of Missouri who helped draft the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery.

The other site would be between Calvert Street N.W. and the National Zoological Park, west of Adams Mill Road.

THE TIME IS RIPE

(Mr. GURNEY (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Oklahoma) was granted permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. GURNEY. Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States has just been presented with a golden opportunity

to prove his concern for the concept of constitutional government and his regard for the integrity of the highest judicial body in the land.

With the vacancy created by the pending resignation of Justice Clark the President has the chance to live up to the spirit of the amendment I have proposed requiring that Justices be selected from among the qualified jurists of the Nation rather than from among political cronies.

Mr. Speaker, I grant you that there may be more political cronies around than jurists, but there are still a good many highly qualified men in the Nation who have proven their judicial qualifications as members of the Federal and State courts. This has always been true, but more often than not the President in choosing a Justice has made the selection on grounds other than experience with the law.

We have in our time seen Court packing to fill the bench with men of the President's political persuasion. The amendment I have proposed would require, in addition to judicial experience, that the balance between the political philosophies be made more even. Even with my amendment, we have no way of determining that the President will choose the most qualified man, but as the law stands now, there is no requirement that he choose one with any qualifications at all.

We do not need to be reminded of the vast importance of the Supreme Court and the tremendous power those nine men wield. And the power to appoint them rests almost entirely with the discretion of the President.

I am hopeful that the President will take this opportunity to assure the worried Nation by appointing a qualified man chosen from the many on the courts today, and that he will be more concerned with the man's ability than with his politics.

I am further hopeful that the Congress will act to assure that future appointments will be based on merit by considering the amendment I have proposed.

ABC-ITT MERGER

(Mr. MOORE (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Oklahoma) was granted permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking Republican member of the House Select Committee on Small Business, I am deeply gratified at the announcement by our distinguished chairman, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. EVINS], that an investigation will be made into the facts surrounding the proposed merger of the International Telephone & Telegraph Corp., and the American Broadcasting Co.

Certainly all that we have read and heard concerning this action, and especially concerning the procedures under which the proposed merger was at first approved by the Federal Communications Commission, gives us just cause to wonder how well the public interest will be served.

For us on the Small Business Committee, there remains a great many unanswered questions concerning the impact of the ABC-ITT merger on competition in broadcasting and related industries. A strong segment of this industry, especially in the fields of radio and UHF television, comprises small unaffiliated stations scattered throughout the country. It is primarily on this basis that the committee will undertake its investigation.

A great measure of credit must go to our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE], who foresaw the many problems that would be raised by this merger and who called upon the FCC to extend its proceedings and delay a final decision on the merger barely hours before its approval was announced on December 21, 1966. Although he had no way of knowing at the time, the Commission had apparently made its decision well before the gentleman's statement.

The many unanswered questions and unexplored facets of the action which prompted the gentleman from Massachusetts' [Mr. CONTE] call for a more deliberate and penetrating study by the FCC, were more than emphasized by a bitter dissent from the majority report by two members of the Commission.

The gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE] has continued to keep the matter in focus and has taken steps to make certain the public interest will not be neglected or jeopardized. In a style that is so characteristic of him, he has spoken up loudly and firmly on behalf of the independent businessman and fair competition. He has reaffirmed his basic conviction on the necessity for a healthy, viable independent business community.

The need for a review of the proposed merger from the point of view of independent competition was brought to the attention of our chairman by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE] in a letter dated December 23, barely 48 hours after the FCC had formally approved the move. The gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE] also sent a similar letter to the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce [Mr. STAGGERS], and I understand that able committee is also making a study within its own purview.

Since then, of course, the Justice Department has intervened and the FCC has set aside its initial approval pending submission of additional facts and evidence in the matter.

As the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE] himself has said repeatedly, the ultimate outcome of this situation may well be to confirm the merger. It may be that we will find no threats to the public welfare or to the competitive atmosphere within which hundreds of independent communications enterprises must function. But we cannot assume this. We must explore the record and we must lay the facts before the public. We must be sure, and we cannot afford to cut corners in reaching that assurance.

It is my understanding that the study will be made by the subcommittee on which the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. CONTE] is the ranking Repub-

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lican. I am sure his contributions will be as valuable and penetrating during these deliberations as they have been in the preceding weeks.

The American public owes a vote of thanks to our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts for his determination and steadfastness in keeping their interests uppermost in the decisions and deliberations of government.

As the ranking Republican on the House Small Business Committee I know I speak for my Republican colleagues in praising and endorsing the efforts of the distinguished Representative of the State of Massachusetts, **SILVIO CONTE**.

RC
Comfile
SOVIET-FIAT DEAL

(Mr. SNYDER (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Oklahoma) was granted permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, the last time there was official talk of Soviet "mellowing" in the cold war, it was immediately followed by the Soviet missile crisis of 1962, when the Russians tried to get an atomic "drop" on the United States from Cuba.

Today the official line is again that there is a Soviet "thaw" on, at the very moment they are escalating their direction and supply of the big-scale war of Communist conquest in Vietnam.

We are being asked to trade with the enemy behind the backs of our fighting-men, a move unique in American history. To this end, AID proposes to give \$50 million of our taxpayers' money to the Italian Fiat auto works to construct an automated plant in Communist Russia, which has less than a million automobiles right now, poor roads, and insufficient consumer income to buy bicycles, let alone automobiles.

An administration-dominated House Subcommittee of Banking and Currency has dutifully reported in favor of this handout to our enemies.

The voters are strongly against this trading with the enemy. It is the voters—not the State Department—who elect the Congress. This, I suggest, we should all keep in mind. The Congress can, and must, oppose construction of this plant which could make more Russian munitions to kill our men in Vietnam or elsewhere.

PRESIDENT'S VETERANS MESSAGE

(Mr. ADAIR (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Oklahoma) was granted permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Speaker, I have carefully analyzed the President's message on servicemen and veterans received in the House of Representatives on January 31 of this year. As most Members are aware, two subcommittees of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs have been conducting public hearings on bills that will implement some of the recommendations contained in the President's message as well as other pending proposals dealing with the same subject.

Following a careful study of this entire subject, I have introduced three bills that I believe will provide more equitable relief to veterans in the areas touched upon in the President's message.

The first of these bills will provide a cost of living increase in monthly pension rates for veterans, widows and orphans. It will provide increases ranging from \$90 to \$400 in the various income limitations of existing law. The bill will create a new housebound rate of \$100 per month for "old law" pensioners. The bill contains several other features that will liberalize the existing pension program.

The mail of most Members of Congress has called attention to the potential adverse effect that the contemplated increase in social security benefits will have upon the veterans pension program. The President's recommendation would solve this problem by permitting a veteran pensioner to waive any increase in social security or other Federal retirement annuities. I believe a more equitable approach would be to increase the income limitations of existing law, thus permitting a veteran to accept a modest increase in income from any source, without effecting his monthly pension payments.

The second bill I have introduced would extend certain benefits not already authorized to veterans of Vietnam service and, in some instances, their survivors. These include non-service-connected pension benefits for veterans, widows, and orphans; additional medical benefits for veterans; automobile allowances for certain seriously disabled veterans with disabilities that are service-connected and compensation for service-connected disabilities at wartime rates.

The third bill, Mr. Speaker, will authorize increases in the monthly educational assistance allowances payable to veterans who are pursuing educational programs under the Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966. Additionally, this bill would extend the scope of the new GI bill to include on-the-job training and flight training among the programs available for veterans education and training. Although the President's message was silent with respect to the inclusion of these programs, I believe they are necessary if we intend to provide a full program of career opportunity to the returning serviceman. Both the World War II and the Korean conflict GI bills included this program and I believe veterans of current service should have the same opportunity.

I am extremely hopeful and expectant that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs will act favorably upon legislation on these subjects in the immediate future.

ROBERT A. FORSYTHE, A DISTINGUISHED MINNESOTAN

(Mr. LANGEN (at the request of Mr. SMITH of Oklahoma) was granted permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. LANGEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call by colleagues' attention to some very thoughtful remarks recently

delivered by a distinguished Minnesota citizen, Mr. Robert A. Forsythe. He takes a close look at our Nation and our people and our national purpose. His words are important to all Americans as we struggle with the growing problems of national and world leadership.

Mr. Forsythe is a former Minnesota Republican State chairman, and has devoted most of his life in the realm of public service on all levels of government. I heartily commend the following speech, delivered by Mr. Forsythe on March 4, 1967, before the Otter Tail County Republican Convention in Perham, Minn., in my congressional district:

I think it is imperative that each citizen continually review his role in society and his responsibility to his fellow man. None of us live in isolation from society, economic developments, politics, and governmental involvement. We have but to look around us and we find the problems of today mingled with the hopes of tomorrow.

We live in the throes of great and dramatic change. Projecting ahead the next quarter century we can see nothing but change. Change in population growth, change in concentration of population, change in educational demands, change in business, labor, government. Change will be a key word to all.

Change is always accompanied by frustrations. It is because change is difficult to manage. It is difficult to comprehend. It is hard to accept. It forces problems.

We have had great periods of change in the history of our nation. We look back upon them now as historical periods of growth. But during those times there was apprehension, fear, differences of opinion. None of the periods was free of stress and strain.

Yet through it all progress was made and to varying degrees people felt a sense of national purpose at work. This is essential in America—namely that we feel a sense of national purpose. Our nation and its cause in the world must mean something to the individual.

Today we look around and find a myriad of problems and issues in a new era of change. We find draft card burnings, refusal of youngsters to serve their nation. We find confusion in the civil rights movement. We find great difficulty with terms such as "black power." We have student demonstrations. We have witnessed talk of economic guidelines in relation to management and labor and prices and wages. We have the problem of war and peace. It would almost seem that we have an avalanche of problems each in itself difficult of solution.

Maybe what these really represent are symptoms of a larger problem. Perhaps we have reached a time when we lack the feeling of a national sense of purpose. Maybe what each of us has to do is to sit down and sharpen our own evaluation of our nation's purpose. That really should not be too difficult.

It would seem to me that America has always had three general principles or goals:

1. The pursuit of peace
2. The preservation of freedom
3. The belief in the dignity of man.

These three principles have been woven into the fabric of America from the day of the founding of this Republic. They are as worthy of pursuit today as they have been at any time in the past. But they must be spelled out anew for all to hear and to feel.

I think there are also certain precepts which America has become associated with over a long period of time which are of growing importance to our situation today. I have a strong belief that America: